

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- ✓ 1. (Canceled)
- ✓ 2. (Canceled)
- ✓ 3. (Canceled)
- ✓ 4. (Canceled)
- ✓ 5. (Canceled)
- ✓ 6. (Canceled)
- ✓ 7. (Canceled)
- ✓ 8. (Canceled)
- ✓ 9. (Canceled)
- ✓ 10. (Canceled)
- ✓ 11. (Canceled)
- ✓ 12. (Canceled)
- ✓ 13. (Canceled)

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14. (Currently Amended) A priming device for a detonator, comprising:  
timing means for timing the action of a firing element of a primer;  
an electrical power supply that provides a first power intensity to the timing  
means; and  
power generating means, the power generating means for generating, through  
a resistive circuit and charged capacitor, a second power intensity sufficient to actuate the  
firing element upon expiration of a timing interval, as determined by wherein the timing  
means and power generating means have resistors limiting the current intensity, the first  
power intensity from the power supply not being sufficient, even as other components fail, to  
actuate the firing element.

15. (Previously Added) The device of claim 14, wherein the power generating means comprises a capacitor, switching means, and controlling means, the controlling means controlling the switching means by allowing the capacitor to be charged for a charging time and then discharged, the discharge causing the firing element to act on the primer

16. (Currently Amended) A priming device for a detonator, comprising:  
an electrical power supply means for timing the action of a firing element of a primer; and

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power generating means for generating, through a resistive circuit having resistors limiting current intensity, a current intensity sufficient to actuate the firing element upon expiration of a timing interval, the power generating means comprising a capacitor, switching means, and controlling means for controlling the switching means by allowing the capacitor to be charged for a charging time during the timing interval and then discharged, the discharge causing the firing element to act on the primer.

17. (Previously Added) The device of claim 16, wherein the control means comprises a microcontroller.

18. (Previously Added) The device of claim 17, wherein the switching means comprises transistors.

19. (Previously Added) The device of claim 17, wherein the timing means have programming means for programming the timing interval.

20. (Previously Added) The device of claim 19, wherein the programming means have at least one code wheel electrically connected to the microcontroller.

21. (Previously Added) The device of claim 20, wherein the code wheel is luminescent.

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- Concluded.*
22. (Previously Added) The device of claim 19, wherein the programming means comprises external programming means and information transferring means for transferring programmed data from the external programming means to the microcontroller.
23. (Previously Added) The device of claim 22, wherein the external programming means comprises an electrical power supply, a microcontroller, a display, and two programming switches.
24. (Previously Added) The device of claim 22, wherein the information transferring means comprises phototransistors.
25. (Previously Added) The device of claim 22, wherein the external programming means comprises a microcomputer.
26. (Previously Added) The device of claim 22, wherein the information transferring means comprises an electrical connector connected to the microcontroller.
27. (Previously Added) The device of claim 16, wherein the switching means comprises a mechanical timing means.
28. (Previously Added) The device of claim 16, further comprising booby-trap means for deliberately authorizing firing of the primer.
29. (Previously Added) The device of claim 28, wherein the booby-trap means comprises a tripwire connected to the microcontroller.
30. (Previously Added) The priming device of claim 14, wherein the timing means and power generating means have resistors limiting the current intensity.
31. (Previously Added) The primary device of claim 16, wherein the resistive circuit has resistors limiting current intensity.